



Issue 38 – November 2007 Newsletter

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ZAGNY BOARD ELECTIONS

2008-2011

In March 2008, the three-year term of the current ZAGNY board will come to a close and a new board will be elected. Nominations are hereby invited for the elections of the Board of Directors of the Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York, Inc., (ZAGNY).

The nine positions to serve for the three-year term starting April 2008, for which nominations are being sought, are:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Joint Secretary
- Members at Large (4 positions)

Persons nominating, seconding and the nominees must be duly paid members in good standing on or before January 31st 2008. Election will be held at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Navroz function on March 22nd 2008. You can vote via snail mailballot, if you are not planning to attend the AGM, or in person at the AGM meeting.

Agenda for the meeting and the mail ballot will be mailed with the next newsletter. Please get the nomination form completed and signed by a nominator and seconder. The completed nomination (page 6) form must be post marked **NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15, 2008** and should be mailed to the **ZAGNY SECRETARY, KHURSHEED NAVDER, 74 TWO BRIDGES ROAD, TOWACO, NJ 07082**. All nominations mailed after January 15th, 2008 will not be valid and will not be accepted. The proof of mailing will be determined by the post office date-stamp. Please write "nomination form" in the lower left corner of the envelope.

If you would like additional information regarding the responsibilities of each position, please send an email to secretary@zagny.org.

We encourage everyone, from the newest to the long-standing members, to come forward and make a commitment to serve your own Greater New York Zoroastrian community and contribute your ideas and talents.

ZAGNY BOARD:

President

HOMI GANDHI
president@zagny.org

Vice President

NAWAZ MERCHANT
vicepresident@zagny.org

Treasurer

MINOO BENGALI
treasurer@zagny.org

Secretary

KHURSHEED NAVDER
secretary@zagny.org

Joint Secretary

KERMAN DUKANDAR
jointsecretary@zagny.org

Members at Large

KAIZAD DARBARI
kaizad@zagny.org

VISPI KANGA
vispi@zagny.org

FERZIN PATEL
ferzin@zagny.org

MICHEL REID
michel@zagny.org

SHAHNAZ SHROFF
shahnaz@zagny.org



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND ZAGNY'S NEW YEAR EVE FIESTA!

AT THE POMONA DARBE MEHR

December 31, 2007



Owing to the terrific success of last couple New Year Eve functions, ZAGNY will once again host the New Year Eve gala. We invite you to come celebrate Auld Lang Syne with your family and friends. Join us usher in another New Year as we prance n' dance and countdown to 2008 with fun, food, games n music. The program will start at 7 pm. So folks, end this year on a prompt note and avoid the late surcharge---complete the attached registration form (**on page 7**) and mail it to reach us by **December 20th, 2007**.

UDVADA ATASHBEHRAM LUNCHEON

October 21, 2007



Our 23rd annual ZAGNY sponsored luncheon get-together on October 21st 2007 in honor of Udvada Atashbehram (Pak Iranshah) was another major success, thanks to all of you who attended or sent in your donations. Everyone enjoyed the delicious lunch prepared by **Sheroo Kanga**.

For those of you who are not aware of the history, this extremely valuable effort started in 1984 when Erach Munshi and his late wife, Perin, decided on this worthwhile community project to help deserving Parsis and support the maintenance of Atashbehrams in Udvada, Navsari and Surat. Since then, members of ZAGNY and our sister Zoroastrian Associations of North America have been sending contributions every year. Since 1984, under the auspices of ZAGNY, the Zoroastrian community of North America has remitted a total sum of \$313,000 (approximately Rs. 1.4 crores) toward this noble cause!

This year thanks to all your generous donations, an amount of \$17,600 has already been received to date, but Erach Munshi's goal is to collect \$35,000 by June 2008. If you wish to make contributions, checks can be made to ZAGNY Critical Assistance and sent to **Erach Munshi** (212-865-6683).

We also celebrated **Kamal Davar's** Birthday that afternoon with a cake. Kamal has been a former board member and a long time supporter of our religion class and other ZAGNY activities over the years.

NEXT GENERATION CONFERENCE

Submitted by Farah Minwalla

From October 12-14, 2007, the Zoroastrian Association of Chicago hosted NG07. "Next Generation Now," is the first in a series of conferences designed to strengthen and support the perpetuation of our Zarathushti communities by stimulating inter-generational dialogue, cultivating leadership, and paving a path for real-world problem solving. It was truly my pleasure to have attended this insightful conference representing ZAGNY and to have first handedly seen the North American Zoroastrian community unite to discuss issues facing my generation and the community at large. The weekend conference was diligently broken into three sessions titled, "Education, Perpetuation, Awareness," "Achieving Harmony Through Diversity," and "Community Building: The Next Generation Blueprint". Following each session there were panel discussions, small group breakout sessions, and large town-hall-style Q&A sessions. Not only were the distinguished speakers knowledgeable about the challenges facing the Next Generation, but the delegates also engaged in passionate rhetoric. NG07 was sponsored by ZAC, ZYNA, WZCC-Chicago, and FEZANA. Conference co-chairs Jim Engineer and Nikan Khatibi also did an exceptional job making sure the conference ran on time and everyone was allowed time to voice their opinion. NG07 has received phenomenal feedback from the North American Zarathushti community following with exposure in the Chicago Tribune and the Asian-American News Network. The next NextGenNow conference will be held on the West coast in the first half of 2008. I cannot wait until NG08 and strongly encourage all members of our community especially youth to attend.

The excitement and desire to lead and learn displayed at NG07 has left me feeling very hopeful and confident in our community. The Next Generation of Zoroastrians is a very sunny group of individuals indeed.

The link to read the Chicago Tribune article is:

http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-zoroastrians_15oct15,0,5434003.story

ZAGNY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It is once again time to renew your ZAGNY Membership for the coming year. Membership to ZAGNY is on an annual basis and is due on January 1st for the calendar year. **Do become a member if you are not one. Please re-new your membership promptly, if you are a current member.**

HALLOWEEN PARADE

Our annual Halloween costume pageant once again drew in many marchers. Among this year's signature features were our toddler twins dressed in cuddly duck and monkey outfits, a couple Disney princesses-- Cinderella and Sleeping Beauty, a gorgeous little Ms. India, a dazzling Tinkerbell, an adorable whimpering baby, a graceful ice skater, a magnificent mermaid, a little witch, a Superman, Batman, Buzz-Lightyear, a Power Ranger, a Ninja Turtle, a scary-skeleton, and two sporting adults--a cat and a witch.



Our teenage youngsters who felt they were too old to dress up helped judge the costume contest. **Farah Pavri** dressed as the little Ms. India won the first prize, Batman **Davin Patel** won the second, and little **Carina Daruwala** (Tinkerbell) took the third. The winners as well as all contestants got spooky pails filled with candy and cool bendy-pens (thanks **Ferzin** for getting these gifts for the children). The kids then had a fun time decorating and gobbling down ghoulishly good cupcakes with Halloween icing and sprinkles.



We were fortunate to have Professor **Kaikhosrov Irani** in our midst at the November religious class. While the children's classes were underway, the adults got to hear him give yet another interesting talk. A summary of this discourse is given below.

SUMMARY OF PROF. IRANI'S TALK

Submitted by Joe Ball



Professor Irani enlightened an audience of 30 or more with his usual combination of scholarship, wisdom, and wit. He began with a brief presentation of linguistic and archaeological evidence that places the prophet Zarathustra around 1500 BCE. Noting that the theories about the so-called Proto-Indo-Europeans are based on linguistic evidence that demonstrates the common ancestry of Sanskrit, the Gathas, and various European languages; Dr. Irani shared slides from his personal collection that included such rare images as perfectly preserved bodies from ancient tombs (ca. 1800 BCE) of the area north of Tibet. Speaking without notes, Professor Irani's remarks spanned areas relating to early Zoroastrian morality, Zoroastrian influence on Indians, the roots of the cult of Mithraism, and the early history of the Aryans in the Indus Valley. Prof. Irani is Professor Emeritus at the City College of New York where he is currently teaching a seminar on ethics.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONGRATULATIONS:

•To **Shazneen** and **Hanoz Gandhi** on the birth of their baby girl "**Shayaan**" on October 25th, 2007. Congratulations also to the proud grandpa **Homi Gandhi** and uncle **Navroz**.

CONDOLENCES:

•Our New York Zoroastrian community is saddened by the loss of our beloved Nariman Deboo, a past Joint Secretary and Secretary of ZAGNY, who passed away in Darien, Connecticut on November 2nd, 2007. He was a great supporter of our community and many will remember him for his gentle kindness. His most valuable contribution has been his ever-ready willingness to help in creating awareness for the Zoroastrians in the world community. We offer our condolences to the Deboo family and pray to the Almighty that his noble soul rest in peace and that Almighty give you all strength to bear the loss of his passing away. Nariman is survived by his wife Dhun, son Cyrus, and daughter Shireen. Our condolences to all Deboo family members.



•To Tiru Irani on the passing away of his wife Dhun Irani, after a long illness on October 18, 2007.

•To Edul and Niloufer Daver on the passing away of Edul's mother, Meher Daver (93) in Mumbai, India on October 09, 2007.

•To Viraf and Toni Ghadially on the passing away of Viraf's mother, Themina Bomanshaw Ghadially who passed away peacefully in her sleep in Mumbai, India on Oct. 9, 2007.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

•**Rohinton and Sanober Katrak** have moved to Ohio. Their new address is 4089 Stannage Close, New Albany, Oh 43054, Tel: (614) 775-6090.

•**Cyrus and Farzana Cama** are now at 15 Mathew Drive, Annandale, NJ 08801. Tel: (908) 238-9926

COOKBOOK FOR SALE:

"**An Adventure in Exotic Parsi Indian Cooking**" by **Nergish Karanjia** and **Nergis Unwalla**. Cost \$15. Proceeds from sale donated to ZAGNY toward scholarship fund. To purchase contact Nergish Karanjia at (856) 983-4990 or Nergis Unwalla at (856) 983-6239.

CLOTHES DRIVE:

Mehru Cama will once again be collecting new or gently used warm clothing for the needy in Rockland County, all sizes of children, men and women warm clothing are welcome. In addition the "dress for success" welcomes women's business clothing in very good condition. These will help women as they go back to work. Please bring the clothes to the Darbe Mehr at the **December 2nd** religion class. They will be distributed through social organizations in Rockland County.

DMZT NEWS:

For impromptu visits to Darbe Mehr, please contact the trustees listed below (in the following order):

- 1) **Fuad Adib** - Home Tel #: (845) 634-7398; Cell #: (845) 367-1917
- 2) **Fali D. Shroff** - Home Tel #: (201) 670-6762; Cell #: (201) 887-8125

Please do not contact Wayne directly.

ZAGNY 2007/08 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

After careful review of all the applications that were received for ZAGNY scholarships for the year 2007, the scholarship committee has unanimously awarded the scholarship loans as follows:

1. \$5000 scholarship loan to **Jasmine Dukandar**
2. \$1000 scholarship loan to **Sarosh Patel**
3. \$1000 scholarship loan to **Amy Suntoke**

They are all great assets to our Zoroastrian community. We wish them success in all their future endeavors!

If you would like to announce an event that will occur within the next 3 months or to make a general announcement in the ZAGNY newsletter, please email us at secretary@zagny.org

DONATIONS

Name	Critical Asst	General Fund	Scholarship Fund	New Bldg Fund	Good Life
Antia, Darius and Hilla	\$302				
Bengali, Dinaz and Minoo	\$30				
Bharda, Darayes and Roshni	\$50				
Bharda, Zubin	\$50				
Bhote, Cyrus and Shenaz	\$201				
Cama, Cyrus and Farzana	\$51				
Cama, Lovji and Mehru	\$100		\$61		
Cama, Rohinton and Mahrukh	\$210				\$15
Cama, Spenta and Adam Schenck	\$90				
Clubwala, Behroze and Astad	\$101				
Commissariat, Viraf and Maharukh	\$100				
Cooper, Mehroo	\$125				
Dalal, Hormazdyar and Freny			\$100		
Damania, Farzad	\$51				
Daruwala, Percis and Vispi	\$50				
Davar, Adi, Pervin, Binaifer, Rashne, Tamina	\$50				
Davar, Virasp and Kamal	\$100				
Daver, Edul and Niloufer	\$100				
Deboo, Gulestan and Farrokh	\$200				
Dutia, Minu and Behroz	\$101				
Gandhi, Hanoz and Shazneen			\$40		
Gandhi, Navroz—United Way	\$1,000		\$2,324		\$10
Gandhi, Rusi and Natalie	\$202		\$100	\$100	
Hakim, Lovji and Rupy	\$50	\$25			
Hakim, Roshan and Khushru	\$100				
Harda, Rashna and Kersi	\$200				
Hirjibehedin, Farokh	\$51				
Hodiwala, Dinyar and Meher	\$20		\$51		
Jamshidian, Darius and Linda				\$150	
Kavanaugh, Firoza	\$75				
Khambatta, Hoshang and Renate				\$100	
Langrana, Noshir and Dinaz			\$140		
Madon, Yasmin and Rohinton			\$50		
Mehta, Sherazad			\$25	\$25	
Munshi, Erach	\$150				
Palkhiwala, Baji and Christine	\$100				
Patel, Pervez	\$31				
Presswalla, Dr. Faruk and Daisy	\$250				
Randeria, Franak	\$50				
Ranji, Shiroy and Jeroo	\$51				
Sachinvala, Rohinton	\$51			\$51	
Sadarangani, Aban and Harry	\$21	\$21			
Sethna, Rusi and Shernaz			\$50		
Shahparast, Behram	\$201				
Shroff, Fali and Pervin	\$101				
Udwadia, Viraf	\$51				
Vimadalal, Khushroo and Parynaz	\$51				\$15
Cash and checks under \$25	\$897				
TOTAL	\$5,765	\$46	\$2,941	\$426	\$40

*In accordance to the customary policy, donations under \$25 are not individually listed.



New Year's Eve Celebration



The Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York
Cordially invites you to celebrate New Year's Eve

December 31, 2007

At the Darbe Mehr - Suffern, NY

At 7:00 PM

Featuring

Hors D'oeuvres

Authentic Parsi Food

Door Prizes/Raffle/Games

Dance to Live Music with DJ

Champagne Toast at midnight



Family Name: _____

_____ ADULT MEMBERS	\$30.00	_____
_____ CHILDREN (5 - 12)	\$20.00	_____
_____ SENIOR CITIZENS (OVER 65)	\$20.00	_____
_____ CHILDREN (under 5)	FREE	_____
_____ NON MEMBERS	\$45.00	_____
TOTAL:		_____

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATION BY DECEMBER 20th

(No phone reservations will be taken after that date)

There will be a surcharge of \$15 per person for reservations received thereafter and at the gate

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO ZAGNY

Mail to:

Treasurer, MINOO BENGALI

1124 Indian Hill Road, Toms River, NJ 08753



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Treasurer, MINOO BENGALI

1124 Indian Hill Road, Toms River, NJ 08753

ZAGNY
106 Pomona Road
Suffern, NY 10901

Phone
845.362.2104

E-Mail
secretary@zagny.org



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



DECEMBER 2007

12/2	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES (1 pm START)
12/2	CLOTHES DRIVE (SEE DETAILS INSIDE)
12/31	NEW YEAR'S EVE FUNCTION (DETAILS & REG. FORM INSIDE)

JANUARY 2008

1/6	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES (1 PM)
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FEBRUARY 2008

2/3	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES (1 PM)
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MARCH 2008

3/2	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES (1 PM)
3/22	NAVROZE FUNCTION (DETAILS TO FOLLOW)



Rejoice all good things in your life



**WE HOPE YOU HAD A
TERRIFIC THANKSGIVING AND WISH YOU
A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!!**

ZAGNY
106 Pomona Rd.
Suffern, NY 10901

Sign up for email alerts

at:

www.ZAGNY.org